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sentences were clear but his pages were obscure. The separate parts of his character are simple enough but the aggregate remains difficult to understand. The volume is very well worth reading and re-reading.

WILLIAM J. KERBY

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Rural Organization. By WALTER BURR. New York: Macmillan, 1921. Pp. xi+250. \$2.25.

The thirteen chapters of this book are grouped into three parts: Part I, "General Principles, Organizations, and Institutions"; Part II, "Community Economic Functions"; Part III, "Community Social Functions." In the first part an effort is made to define organization, community, and its functions, to describe typical national organizations, and to indicate the proper relations institutions should sustain to one another. The second discusses organized community activities in relation to farm-production, marketing, securing supplies, finance and communication, and transportation. Part III deals in a similar manner with education, sanitation and health, recreation, beautification, and home-making. Religion, which rightfully belongs with the last group, through some curious fancy of the author, is put under national organizations.

The activities considered are rather meagerly and superficially treated throughout; in fact, so much so that the book falls far short of what one expects. The discussion of such topics as the farm bureau and local credit associations, for example, omits so many vital facts that no adequate idea is conveyed. Illustrative instances are drawn too often from Kansas, the author's state, to be either interesting or altogether typical.

The book is carefully outlined and well-written. Here and there it utters words of wisdom. It is readable, but contributes scarcely anything new to our knowledge of the subject.

NEWELL L. SIMS

AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Our Revolution. Essays in Interpretation. By VICTOR S. YARROS. Boston: Badger. Pp. 251. \$2.50.

The author presents in this collection of thoughtful essays the views of "an independent radical." The essays have previously appeared in various publications at different times. They are not closely

connected and there is occasional duplication of treatment. To the reviewer the most significant of the essays are: "Human Progress: The Idea and the Reality"; "A Neglected Opportunity and Duty in Journalism" urging an endowed press; and the last three chapters analyzing the Russian situation and presenting a severe condemnation of bolshevism and the soviet system. The soviet system is condemned out of the mouth of Lenin himself whose description is quoted, a "dictatorship of the proletariat, supported by the poorest peasants." "The soviet form of government," comments the author, "is higher and better because it disfranchises the middle class, because it disfranchises the richer peasant who shares the sentiments of the middle class, and because it puts supreme control in the hands of the city workers." "The soviet form of government is neither democratic nor rational. It is government by accidental groups, by disorderly assemblies, by haphazard arrangements. It is government by usurpers and pretenders who may or may not choose to obey a dictatorship of the so-called proletariat, which in turn is led by a small group of remorseless non-proletarian dogmatists and social bigots" (p. 211). Again (p. 248), "To sum up: Everything characteristic of bolshevism is wrong, unscientific, and impossible. Bolshevism is Prussianism in another form. It is equally opposed to democracy, to liberty, to evolution. It is merely the substitution of the tyranny of the Agnostic and Socialist Lenin for that of the monarchist and orthodox Nicholas Romanoff. Lenin is sincere—so was Romanoff."

ROBERT FRY CLARK

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

The Larger Socialism. By BERTRAM BENEDICT. New York: Macmillan, 1921. Pp. 243. \$2.50.

What Is Socialism? By JAMES EDWARD LE ROSSIGNOL. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1921. Pp. x+627. \$2.00.

The first of the foregoing books is written by a convinced socialist who has had practical experience as a soap-box orator and campaigner for the Socialist party. He frankly recognizes and sets forth the hampering, nay, the paralyzing effect of the Marxian ideology on the efforts of the workers who are trying to win over converts to the party. Instead of trying to show, for instance, the greater productiveness of the socialist economic organization over the present wasteful and ineffective capitalist organization they confine their efforts to repeated reiteration of the Marxian formulas.